Reminder: Freight meets unprecedented challenges in 2020, State of Sustainable Fleets, EPA highlights "Tampering Policy" and more!



## SmartWay e-update

November 2020 SmartWay e-update

News for EPA SmartWay Partners and Stakeholders December 2020

# Trucking Meets Unprecedented Challenges in 2020

As 2020 comes to a close, EPA SmartWay expresses its deep appreciation to the freight carriers, drivers, logistics providers and shippers that worked together to respond to the crises brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. The impacts of COVID-19



varied significantly from one company to the next, but through it all, the industry continued to move America's freight across the nation's highways.

Truck drivers were among the front-line responders, delivering critical medical supplies and equipment to hospitals and ensuring warehouses, grocery and other stores were stocked with essential goods. The industry also engaged in numerous relief efforts and managed unprecedented demand for home delivery, amid major disruptions to its logistics networks. Through it all, many companies worked around the clock, optimizing their response in real time and adapting to major economic fluctuations in market conditions.

With 2021 on the horizon, and a national goal to vaccinate more 100 million Americans, or about 30% of the U.S. population, by the end of March, transportation and logistics professionals are once again rising to meet extraordinary supply chain and distribution challenges. EPA SmartWay applauds your skill, creativity and courage and looks forward to our nation and the world emerging from this crisis. Together we will be better equipped and positioned to continue working on our goals to create a stronger, more sustainable and resilient industry that positively contributes to the economy, community and people we serve. Thank you.

## **Welcome New Partners!**

In these extraordinary times, companies with a vision for a more sustainable future are seeking opportunities to help optimize their freight operations and increase efficiency and resiliency. To that end, SmartWay welcomed almost 300 new Partners in 2020, including freight carriers, shippers and logistics service providers operating across a wide range of industries. SmartWay applauds its Partners for their leadership and welcomes their contributions in the years to come. To learn more about SmartWay and its new and existing Partners, visit our <u>website</u>.



## State of Sustainable Fleets 2020 Report Finds Cleaner Vehicle Technologies and Fuels Growing Across All Heavy-Duty Sectors

A report examining trends and growth in the adoption of a range of commercially available sustainable vehicle platforms for medium- and heavy-duty vehicles is now available. *Sustainable Fleets 2020* examines four vehicle technologies, including: natural gas



vehicles (NGVs); Propane (LPG) vehicles; battery electric vehicles (BEVs), and hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEVs). Among the report's key findings:

- Sustainable vehicle and fuel use are growing across all classes of medium and heavy-duty trucks
- Sustainability is a top motivator, driven by air quality objectives and goals to reduce climate-altering greenhouse gas emissions and regional smog-forming pollutants
- Fleets using cleaner, alternative fuel trucks expect to continue or increase their use of these vehicles and fuels in the future; and
- Fleets report that there is no material performance loss when switching to most renewable fuels and would use more when they are a cost-neutral, drop-in replacement.

*State of Sustainable Fleets 2020* was published by Gladstein, Neandross & Associates (GNA), a transportation and energy consulting firm. GNA also produces the annual Advanced Clean Transportation Expo. Download a copy of the report <u>here</u>.

## EPA Highlights Enforcement Policy for Engine, Vehicle Tampering and Defeat Devices

EPA has recently turned its attention to an enforcement policy addressing vehicle and engine tampering and aftermarket defeat devices that disable a vehicle's emissions controls. Earlier this year, EPA also announced



that *Stopping Aftermarket Defeat Devices for Vehicles and Engines*, would be a National Compliance Initiative for 2020-2023.

Cars and trucks manufactured today are equipped with sophisticated emission controls and systems that make them much cleaner than older vehicles. Tampering with these emission controls, as well as manufacturing, selling, and installing "aftermarket defeat devices" undermine their effectiveness and is prohibited under the Clean Air Act.

The Agency has found, however, that numerous companies and individuals install, manufacture and sell hardware, software and other devices specifically designed to disable these controls. When the controls are disabled or removed, these illegallymodified vehicles and engines contribute substantial excess pollution that impedes air quality goals and is harmful to human health and the environment. SmartWay wants fleets to understand this issue because it affects the air that we all breathe.

More information on EPA's Tampering Policy is available <u>here</u>. Information on the Agency's *Stopping Aftermarket Defeat Devices for Vehicles and Engines* National Compliance Initiative is available on EPA's Office of Enforcement Compliance Assurance <u>website</u>.

#### **Upcoming Webinars**

# Introduction to the 2021 SmartWay Truck Carrier Truck Tool

#### 2:00 - 3:00 PM (ET) Thursday, January 21, 2021

This webinar provides an introduction to EPA's 2021 SmartWay Truck Carrier Tool, including an interactive demonstration of the Tool. Participants will learn how the



Tool calculates emission inventories of their company's carbon dioxide, nitrogen oxide, and particulate matter outputs based on data unique to their operations (truck class, fuel type, miles, loads, etc.). The webinar will include a discussion on how SmartWay Partners can benchmark and annually track their environmental performance based on multiple efficiency metrics the Tool provides. It also will cover how SmartWay supports companies that engage in sustainability reporting. Key takeaways from this webinar include:

- A basic working knowledge of the 2021 SmartWay Truck Carrier Tool
- 2021 Tool updates
- How to input data into the Tool
- How to complete and upload your Tool to EPA SmartWay
- How to view and use your summary reports for benchmarking and sustainability reporting
- · Key points to remember when filling out the Tool

This webinar is primarily intended for those new to the SmartWay Partnership, prospective partners looking for more information, or partners in need of a refresher.

Register here.

#### **Upcoming Virtual Meetings and Conferences**



## **TRB 100th Annual Meeting Education**

#### 2021 Virtual Event Dates Committee Meetings: January 5-8 and 11-15 Sessions & Exibits: January 21-22 and 25-29

The Transportation Research Board 100th Annual Meeting will be conducted as a virtual event over a series of dates throughout January 2021. The meeting program will cover all transportation modes, addressing topics of interest to policy makers, administrators, practitioners, researchers, and representatives of government, industry, and academic institutions. A number of sessions and workshops will focus on the spotlight theme for the 2021 meeting: *Launching a New Century of Mobility and Quality of Life*. This year's meeting also will feature dozens of sessions on how COVID-19 has impacted transportation and how transportation professionals and researchers are responding. Register <u>here</u> and browse the dates and full 2021online program <u>here</u> to get full details on sessions, workshops and committee meeting. Lower registration fees are available to those registering by November 30th.

# Wishing You a Safe and Joyous Holiday Season!

The holiday season will be different this year, as our lives have changed in so many ways as a result of the global COVID-19 pandemic. SmartWay thanks everyone who made a COVID vaccine possible, and especially our Partners for their critical role in its distribution. We join others across the nation in



gratitude to our heroes of the highway, and those who make shipments possible. May you all have a happy, healthy and safe holiday!

- The SmartWay Team

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